

1,956  
A2F738

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Information Branch  
623 South Wabash Avenue  
Chicago 5, Illinois  
April 19, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

Exports of grains and grain products from the U.S. in the 9 months, July 1949-March 1950 were approximately 392,497,000 bushels (grains and grain equivalent), USDA estimates. This compares with 524,716,000 bushels in the same period of 1948-49.

Of the 1949-50 total, wheat and products amounted to 237,104,000 bushels -- about 154,111,000 bushels less than the 1948-49 period. The July-March exports of other grains included 90,453,000 bushels of corn, and 64,940,000 bushels of oats, barley, grain sorghums and rye, and products. The 1948-49 nine-month totals of the "other" grains were about 22 million bushels smaller. This year's corn exports are 22 million bushels greater than a year earlier.

Fifty percent of the nine-month period shipments went to Germany and the U.S.-Pacific area. ECA countries took approximately 35 percent, and 15 percent went to cash paying countries.

\* \* \*

Cotton reported as pledged to CCC for loans through April 6 totalled 3,163,900 bales. New loans in the first week of April totalled 3,900 bales, but repayments covered 63,400 bales. Loan entries averaged 11,100 bales weekly during March but farmers redeemed an average of 94,400 bales per week. Through April 6, 830,700 bales previously under loan were redeemed, leaving 2,333,200 bales of the 1949 crop still under loan on that date. Redemptions have been high due to favorable cotton prices at/or above loan rate. In addition, CCC has sold 139,200 of the 3,793,000 bales of the 1948-crop cotton pooled for producers' account.

\* \* \*

USDA has announced the schedule of shorn wool purchase prices under the 1950 wool price support program. The prices will be based on a national average support level of 45.2 cents per pound, grease basis. This compares with 42.3 cents per pound, grease basis, for the 1949 clip. In the new schedule, price differentials between grades of wool are more closely in line with current market relationships than under last year's program, and due consideration is given to historical price relationships between grades as well as to the current market relationship. In general, the 1950 prices for "fine" wools under the program are a little higher than they were last year, while prices of "medium" and "coarser" wools are somewhat lower.

\* \* \*

Fifteen million pounds of butter and 5 million pounds of cheese, acquired by CCC under mandatory price support programs, has been made available for donation to school lunch programs, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and public and private welfare agencies for the assistance of needy persons in the U.S. The butter is offered free to eligible agencies, except for shipping and handling costs from storage points. The two products were acquired in 1949.

\* \* \*

Including sales last week of 1,740,000 pounds of crude cottonseed oil for export, and 4,500,000 pounds to domestic buyers, CCC has disposed of 65,700,000 pounds of its stocks of this commodity. About 38 million pounds were for export. Meanwhile, vegetable oil markets continued firm last week although a slight easing off of prices was noted at the week's end.

\* \* \*

CCC purchases of dairy products for price support last week included: butter, 4,375,754 pounds; American cheese, 1,955,581 pounds; dry milk solids, 7,098,455 pounds; roller milk solids, 4,202,395 pounds. The Agency sold 42,559 pounds of cheese to domestic buyers.

\* \* \*

Sales of wheat under the International Wheat Agreement, confirmed by CCC, in the period April 5-11, amounted to 927 thousand bushels (including flour in wheat equivalent). Principal buyers were Denmark, Belgium, Philippines, and U.K. Cumulative sales of U.S. wheat and flour under the Agreement through April 11 are 97,856,000 bushels.

\* \* \*

April 1 Cold Storage Holdings and Changes During March 1950					
Cooler			Freezer		
Commodities	April 1	during Mar.	Commodities	April 1	during Mar.
"000" lbs.	"000" lbs.	"000" lbs.	"000" lbs.	"000" lbs.	"000" lbs.
Apples.....	341,760	-258,336	Fruits.....	254,619	-10,585
Pears.....	16,150	-16,650	Vegetables.....	269,653	-35,663
Dried & ev. Fts..	46,712	-2,432	Cream.....	5,015	-370
Can'd. ft. & Veg.	1,744	-1,254	Cream'y. butter.	94,178	1,292
Nuts & Nutmeats..	106,460	7,064	Eggs.....	115,320	42,161
Fish (Est.).....	17,366	-	Poultry.....	212,678	-47,845
Cheese.....	159,529	-4,463	Beef.....	92,116	-10,642
Shell eggs.....	56,385	23,310	Pork.....	358,211	-23,799
Dried eggs.....	78,701	1,511	Sausage.....	4,057	879
Beef.....	10,341	378	Lamb & Mutton...	10,897	-2,165
Pork.....	188,533	-2,565	Veal.....	9,823	-737
Sausage.....	8,334	163	Edible Offal....	54,842	-1,828
Canned meats.....	42,691	4,583	Lard & pork fat.	3,516	269
Lard & pork fat..	84,384	6,457	Fish (est.).....	84,000	-21,818
Other.....	282,663	-34,013	Other.....	33,941	913
Total.....	1,441,753	-276,247	Total.....	1,602,866	-109,938

Total of all foodstuffs held under refrigeration was 151 million pounds above the 5-year average for April 1. Cooler stocks were 16% and freezer 6% less than a month earlier, in line with the seasonal pattern. Frozen beef stocks were the smallest since April 1, 1943, and 2/3 of average. Frozen pork was 67 million pounds above the 5-year April 1 average.

\*\*\*

Chickens (including commercial broilers) and turkeys will not have price support in 1950, USDA announced April 13. The announcement was made at this time to enable producers to take this factor into consideration in their plans for 1950 production. Price support for chickens and turkeys is not mandatory under the Agricultural Act of 1949. Both were "Steagall" commodities under wartime programs.

Support programs for chickens were announced in 1946 and 1947, but no purchases were actually required. Four turkey support programs have been announced but purchase operations were acquired under only two--1.5 million pounds under the 1947 program--and later sold to the Armed Forces--and 9 million pounds bought under the 1949 program. USDA is obligated to make further purchases of 1949-crop turkeys still in storage in July 1950, if they meet quality requirements. Bulk of the turkeys acquired so far have been transferred to school lunch programs.

\*\*\*

Federally inspected meat production last week amounted to 278 million pounds. Beef and veal slaughter dropped during the week but hog and sheep slaughter was still running considerably above last year with overall production 8 percent above the same 1949 week. Included were: beef, 123 million pounds; veal, 11.4 million; pork, 135 million; lamb and mutton, 9.1 million pounds. About 35.4 million pounds of lard were processed.

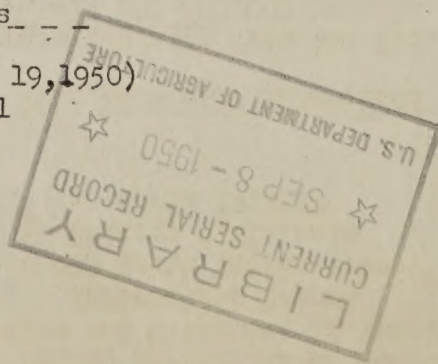
\*\*\*

USDA is conducting a special plentiful food program on dry beans on a nation wide basis April 27 to May 3, and in the Midwest April 27 to May 10, upon the request of the Association of Michigan Growers, Shippers and Handlers, and other organizations. Current stocks of dry beans--14.5 million bags--are equivalent to a year's supply, with more than 3 million bags (100-lbs.) in Michigan. We suggest you order that perennial favorite, baked beans, at your restaurant, or suggest it at home. The nation's bean growers expanded their production to meet wartime demand, and now face the postwar period of large stocks and lessened demand, both abroad and at home.

\*\*\*\*

After five days return to--  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Information Branch  
623 South Wabash Avenue  
Chicago 5, Illinois  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
FORM PMA-1 (April 19, 1950)  
896-PERMIT NO. 1001

Penalty for private use to avoid  
payment of postage \$300



1.956  
#2F738

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Information Branch  
623 South Wabash Avenue  
Chicago 5, Illinois  
April 27, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

Nearly 60 percent of the 1949 corn crop was still on hand in the U.S. April 1. Stocks were 2,031,739,000 bushels. Of those, 1,632,182,000 were on farms. Farm holdings were less than a year ago, but terminal stocks were largest since 1942. CCC held 238,967,000 bushels. The BAE report says corn disappearance since last October 1 was 1,920,000,000 bushels, largest since 1943-44. Farmers have been feeding at record rates.

Wheat stocks April 1 were 663,000,000 bushels, largest since 1943. CCC held 5,548,000 bushels. Wheat disappearance was smaller January-March this year than a year ago. Reduced exports were the cause.

Other grain stocks were: oats, 522,698,000; barley 135,130,000 bushels; and rye, 13,110,000 bushels. Only report on grain sorghums showed 23,546,000 bushels at terminals. Soybean and flaxseed stock position reports will be made Friday.

\*\*\*\*\*

The number of cattle on feed in 11 Midwestern states reported on April 1 by Bureau of Agricultural Economics was about 8 percent larger than a year earlier. Minnesota and Kansas reported smaller number; Illinois, Michigan, and South Dakota virtually no change; increases in Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, and Nebraska. Net increase of about 220,000 head over a year ago. More of the animals on feed are calves, with steers and heifers making up a smaller percentage of the total than in 1949. The number of feeders shipped into Midwestern states from January through March was much larger than in 1949.

A special report on feeder situation in Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska the three most important states, indicates that the proportion of light weight cattle is larger than usual, and that feeders expect to market their fed cattle later and over a longer season, with about 63 percent coming to market after July 1.

\*\*\*

Meat production under federal inspection last week reached 284 million pounds - 2 percent under the preceding week. Total slaughter was 3 percent above the corresponding week last year. Hog slaughter rose 10 percent above the similar week a year ago. Last week's production was made up of 127 million pounds of beef, 136 million pounds of pork, and 9 million pounds of lamb and mutton. Lard production was 36.3 million pounds, - 3.3 million pounds above that last year the same week.

\*\*\*

1949 crop turkeys offered to CCC for purchase in July under the price support program may be graded as early as May 1. Previously, CCC had a 30-day limit on Federal Terminal Market Poultry Grading Certificates it would accept on turkeys offered. In July CCC will buy any unsold eligible turkeys from the 1949 crop, offered in carlots to support the price of the 1949 production.

\*\*\*

USDA has resumed payment of handling and transportation charges on 1949-crop Irish potatoes donated to welfare outlets, schools, and non-profit hospitals. Recent legislation made the change possible. Such groups can apply to state agencies distributing commodities donated by USDA.

\*\*\*

CCC sold 3,534 more bales of 1949-crop pooled cotton last week. That brings sales from that cotton to a total of 192,732 bales.

\*\*\*

Milk production per cow was at all time high record in 1949, but milk cow numbers were lowest since 1930, according to corrected figures issued by BAE. Total milk production was 119.1 billion pounds, 3 percent above 1948, but 2 percent below record level of 1945. Farmers cash receipts from milk, cream, and farm butter totaled 2.8 billion dollars, 15 percent less than 1948, but third highest on record.

\*\*\*

Commodity Credit Corporation will buy grain stored by farmers under CCC loan on May 1 at the higher of two figures: either the loan value plus interest and charges, or the market value at the close of markets on May 1. This announcement applies to grains on which loans mature April 30. These include wheat, oats, barley, rye, flaxseed, rice, dry edible beans, and lespedeza seed. The same conditions apply to soybeans, on which CCC loans mature May 31, and corn, on which loans mature July 31. Producers who have loans on commodities may pay off notes and redeem commodities prior to maturity, and USDA encourages them to do so where market prices are higher than loan prices plus charges. Wheat prices in some areas are favorable at present time. About 250 million bushels of wheat are under loan.

\*\*\*

USDA this week amended the Federal Seed Act Regulations. The amendments are effective July 1. They bring seed testing methods in line with methods approved by the Association of Official Seed Analysts at Corvallis, Oregon, last July. They also make adjustments in germination standards. The amendments also provide that only recognized variety names may be used in advertising, and prohibit the use of names or terms that mislead as to the history or quality of seed.

\*\*\*

World corn production for 1949-50 is estimated at 5,550 million bushels, second in size to last year's record output. The estimate shrank 130 million bushels from an earlier figure because of drought in Southern Hemisphere countries, particularly Argentina and the Union of South Africa.

\*\*\*

CCC purchases of dairy products for price support last week totaled: Butter, 5,128,295 pounds; cheese, 2,911,264 pounds; roller dried nonfat dry milk solids, 3,415,400 pounds; and spray dried, 7,560,520 pounds.

\*\*\*

While USDA fruit reporters say it is too early to estimate size of peach crop, reports this week indicate that freezing weather during April has made further reductions in prospects in many sections. Situation in Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama is compared to that in 1943, when weather was similar, resulting in about one-fourth of a crop. In Arkansas, crop conditions good in Clarksville and Nashville-Highland, but frost damage in Crowley Ridge area. In Illinois, freeze of April 13 hit Jackson, Johnson, Union counties at full bloom; Centralia area, farther north, bloom less advanced and escaped serious damage. Virginia crop severely damaged except in few northern counties.

\*\*\*

Two reports on studies of consumer purchases of fresh citrus fruits, canned juices, frozen concentrated juices, and dried fruits have been issued by USDA. They are based on national samples, surveyed in January and February this year. The reports show up such trends as increased purchases of frozen concentrated orange juice the first two months of this year. Consumers paid higher average prices in February. The reports are available from USDA, Washington, D. C.

\*\*\*

After five days return to ————— Penalty for private use to avoid

